

FIRST CLASS MAIL



THE BLURB

A Publication of

THE PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.
2113 EDGEHILL DRIVE, FURLONG, PA 18925

PHILMONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB

W3RQZ•W3TKQ•W3QV



BLURB

August 1990



W3TKQ *Today*



THE GREAT SWAMMI YAKEINNI
SEES GREAT CHANGES TO COME...

is published monthly by, and for, the members of **The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.**, whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs; requests should be sent to the Editor. BLURB subscriptions are available to non-members for \$6.50 addressed to the Treasurer. The club meets at 8 PM on the first non-holiday Monday of every month at The Franklin Institute, 20th Street and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia. Use the Winter Street (north side) entrance.

ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME!

Amateur Radio License Examinations - every meeting night at 6:30 PM-SHARP!

CLUB INFORMATION

- 24 Hour Information Number at W3TKQ -**(215) 448-1139**
 Repeater frequency: 147.03 MHz - Simplex frequency: 147.51 MHz
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 88, Abington, PA 19001

STATIONS

W3QV - 147.03 MHz. Repeater - 8200 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3BBB
 W3RQZ - 1176 Old York Road, Abington, PA - Trustee W3VVS

W3TKQ - The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3PWG

W3TKQ Operators: WA3AAL, Fred; N3ABS, John; K3TEF, Frank; KA3PJC, Jack; W3PWG, Rollie
ALL LICENSED AMATEURS ARE WELCOME TO OPERATE W3TKQ.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: W3UY, Larry Clifford, 951 Surrey Drive, Blue Bell, PA 19422
 VICE PRESIDENT: N3FVI, Bill Popovic, 343 Lemonte Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103
 SECRETARY: N3GLH, Brad Swanson, 517 Cresheim Valley Road, Wyndmoor, PA 19118
 TREASURER: KB3IV, Ed Masarsky, 15 Poe Avenue, Wyncote, PA 19095

DIRECTORS

W3BBB (90); K3GBA (A); AK2I (91); W3IIM (A); W3IIN (A); K3KUD (91); W3LKI (90)

COMMITTEES

Archives:	W3IIN	Membership:	W3IIN	Repeater:	W3BBB
Awards:	-----	MO-COM 5:	N3DHI	Special Events:	N3FVI
BLURB:	W3IIM	Net Control:	WB3CMM	TVI:	WA3AUN
Budget /Audit:	W3IIN	Program:	N3FVI	VE Program:	ND3Q
Directory:	WB3KOJ	Publicity:	N3EAY	W3TKQ:	W3PWG
DX:	WA3AUN	Refreshments:	N3FVI	Welcome:	W3VVS

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N3DHI, K3GBA, WB3KOJ

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DEADLINE: To be assured of publication in the current month, all copy **MUST** be in the hands of the Editor at the Board of Directors' Meeting!

NET SCHEDULE

SUNDAY	09:30	147.030	MHz FM	"SUNDAY MORNING 2 METER NET"
	10:00	28.993	MHz SSB	"10-ON-10 NET"
	10:20	3.993	MHz SSB	75 METER NET
TUESDAY	20:00	147.030	MHz FM	CW PRACTICE NET (SEE CALENDAR)



Don Gordon, WB3KOJ

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 01 Lee Pamplin - N3EKR
- 02 Thomas O. Bohlander - WA3KLR
- 04 Harry A. Carl - W3KDO
- George W. K. King - W3PXY
- 05 Rolland E. Madara - W3PWG
- Kitty Trout - KA3BDU (XYL W3IGW)
- 08 Joseph J. Johnston - K3VXU
- 09 Carolyn R. Popovic - KA3VLT
- 11 Dot McQueen (XYL W3PCX)
- 12 Joann Hoch - N3FTC
- 14 Pat Mescanti (XYL WB3CMM)
- 15 Mark Ackerman - WA3AUN
- 17 Grace Burket (XYL W3HQJ)
- Jacob S. Kovalchek, Jr. - AK2I
- 22 John M. Muroff - W3SAI
- 25 Frank D. Whitten - K3TEF
- 27 Ursula Garvin (XYL W3GRY)
- 28 Gordon Lusky - W3APD
- 30 Paul Bohlander - W3VVS

HELP PHIL-MONT

Are you planning to join ARRL or renew your current membership?
 Help Phil-Mont by joining or renewing through the club.
 Contact KB3IV for the details.

NEW DIRECTORY

Please note the following change in your 1990 directory:
 KA3TVZ, Ted Coats, is now NZ3Q.

A few **PHIL-MONT 'T' Shirts**
 still available for \$5.25 in limited sizes.
 Contact W3IIN for details.

First come-first served

UPDATE

AUG 6 General Meeting Program:
WA3BXW, Bill Ferguson
"The Maxi Repeater"

Aug 15 Directors' Meeting
at W3IIM & N's

SEPT 10 General Meeting

Sept 19 Directors' Meeting
at W3HFY's

OCT 1 General Meeting

Oct 17 Directors' Meeting at
KA3AMO & N3FTC's

HAM RADIO FLEA MARKET

Every Saturday 09:00 to 16:00
Indoor Space Available
COUNTRY SPRINGS MARKET
Route 248, North of Allentown, PA
Info: 215-266-9291 or 767-5833
Talk-in: 146.745 146.52

V.E. TEST LOCATIONS

from EPA FEEDLINE & others

Confirm all information, in advance, with the contact person. Licensed applicants must bring their original license and one photocopy of it. All applicants, including children, must present positive ID. Also bring the original of any Certificate of Successful Completion needed to prove current status. The ARRL VEC's 1990 test fee is \$4.95; there is no charge for a Novice test.

BELLMAWR, NJ
Monthly, 3rd Thursday
Bill Helmatag
(609) 546-7710

BRYN MAWR
Bob Haase, W3SA
(215) 293-1919

CENTER CITY
Monthly, 1st Monday
Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q
(215) 482-0386
(215) 879-0505

LEVITTOWN
Dave Heller, K3TX
(215) 946-1040

PERKASIE
Monthly, 3rd Monday
Warren Erdman K3ZXQ
(215) 679-5764

HATBORO
Tom Michaud, WA3TQJ
(215) 343-3494

HAMFESTS

AUG 4 LANCASTER, PA
(Sat) Red Rose Repeater Ass'n

AUG 12 WARRINGTON, PA
Mid-Atlantic RC

AUG 19 GEORGETOWN, MD
Delmarva Hamfest

AUG 26 MULLICA HILL, NJ
Gloucester County ARC

SEPT 9 GAITHERSBURG, MD

SEPT 16 PENNSAUKEN, NJ
South Jersey RA

SEPT 22-23 YORK, PA

OCT 21 BENSELEM, PA
Penn Wireless Association

OCT 28 SELLERSVILLE, PA
RF Hill ARC

SWLING GAINS POPULARITY

Shortwave listening (SWLING) is booming! Industry sources say that the hobby is increasing at a rate of 20 to 30% per year. Larry Magne, editor-in-chief of Passport to World Band Radio 1990, says that sales of the book are "going through the roof. We're selling 500 a day."

Listeners fall into two categories, news hounds and DXers. Most of the growth seems to be in the former category. This group of listeners wants a global perspective on the news, with viewpoints that the 3 TV networks and CNN do not provide.

Myles Mustoe, a public school teacher in Wenatchee, WA, uses shortwave radio as an "electronic field trip" for his geography classes at the elementary and secondary level. Mustoe is the author of the new book, Shortwave Goes to School: A Teacher's Guide to Using Shortwave Radio in the Classroom.

Dr. Michael Fulda of Fairmont University, Fairmont, WV, uses university-owned shortwave receivers in his teaching. Fulda says that listening to foreign programming is helpful in the students' political science studies. It accounts for 20 to 25% of their grade.

Years ago the average SWL was a recent immigrant, a young person hungry for news from back home in the mother tongue. Today the average SWL was born before 1950. He is a non-Black, non-immigrant male who usually listens to English-language programs.

One factor in the increase in listeners is the number of powerhouse broadcasters, transmitting 24 hours a day with plenty of power on multiple bands. The BBC claims 120 million listeners a week, the Voice of America 130 million, the Christian Science Monitor World Service 5 million listeners.

Armed Forces Radio & TV used to be another powerhouse, but they have abandoned shortwave for satellites. Other well-heard stations include Radio Canada, Radio Moscow, Deutsche Welle, Radio Havana, Radio Nederland, and Radio Australia.

Another factor in the growth is the availability of moderately-priced high-tech SW receivers. Sony's ICF-SW1, for example, fits in the palm of a hand, has digital tuning, AM/FM-stereo/LW/SW, memory presets, alarm clock, weighs just 8 oz., and costs as little as \$320.

inx ARRL BBS

REPEATINGS

Amateur Radio Classes begin on September 11 in Warminster... The Penn Wireless Association's repeater (W3SK) is now on the air. Unfortunately, nowhere in their newsletter do they list the frequency. And a happy 25th birthday to them!... New rack and other goodies at our repeater site. Spencer's been putting-in a lot of behind-the-scenes work... Jake and Sam have just returned from separate trailer/RV vacation trips and have been heard comparing notes on their travels - what does "let me do this --ding" mean, Sam?... Farewell MO-COM - we'll miss you! - but not very much. How many members came out to help the last time you needed a wash and wax?... Wally (K3JJO), heard every morning and afternoon on the repeater, has applied for membership. He even is willing to 'help with the chores!' 'Better grab him for the repeater committee and as a Net Control station!'

WE ARE THE OTs

Cliff Henderson, KB6MAA

We were here before SSB, FM, RTTY, packet, AMTOR or computers, and moon-bounce was what happened to us and our YLs in the rumble seat.

We were around before transistors, toroids and phase locked loops, and a chip was something we used in a poker game.

Digital was a mathematical term, and solid state was the condition of the "engineer's" head.

Our "keyer" was a hand pump, sidewinder or bug, and a filter was the two appendages on either side of our heads.

Our CQ was an invitation to a ragchew, and we had never heard of the term "KN."

Our signals were not often stable or T9, but we managed many a QSO with one hand on the tuning knob following those self excited oscillators.

A coil was something we wound on a form or made with copper tubing, and we left ample room to work on the rig.

We didn't need a monitor, as the 866s flashing in the corner and the transformer groaning did the job.

GOOD NEWS

There is some good news to report in the ARRL's effort to get the FCC to preempt local and state laws that prevent Amateurs from having radio receivers.

Harassment and arrest of Amateurs and confiscation of Amateur equipment in some states prompted the ARRL to file a Request for Declaratory Ruling. If granted, the ruling would likely declare that the FCC overrides any local laws that prohibit licensed Amateurs from having equipment capable of receiving some public safety frequencies (police, fire). The situation is similar to the

We were here before the bands were chopped up into little pieces, CB and TVI didn't exist, and a woodpecker was a bird.

A repeater was a Winchester rifle, the term "hand-held" referred to a lover's tryst, and a mixer was used to make malted milks.

We used wire antennas, and a tribander was something our YLs wore around their heads.

A microwave was a ripple in the pond, and 2M was 78.74 inches.

We were before VHF, UHF and SHF, and a waveguide was a breakwater.

QRP was a condition forced on us by our meager pocket books, and a hundred watt was a "big gun."

QST was a magazine for Amateurs, filled with useful information instead of full page ads, and it would respond to your needs.

We were here before rice boxes, circuit boards, LEDs, S-meters, factory service, bells and whistles and appliance operators.

We are proud to be the OTs!

tnx WORLD RADIO

1985 PRB-1 case, in which the FCC granted an ARRL request for federal preemption of local and state regulation of Amateur antennas.

In a nutshell, local and state authorities may still enact some health, safety or aesthetic regulations on antennas, but they must not have the effect of prohibiting normal Amateur operation. They must also represent the "minimum" regulation necessary to achieve the local authority's purpose (See FCC's Amateur Rule Section 97.15[e]).

(WSYI Report, 06/01/90) tnx WORLD RADIO

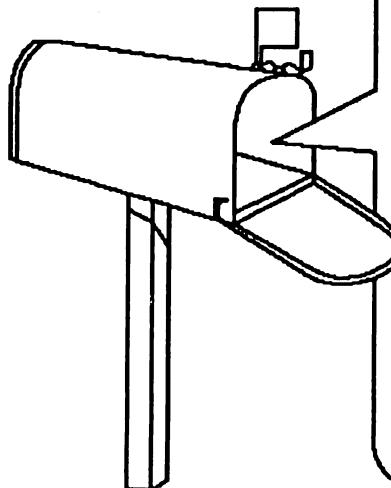
The PREZ SEZ

Larry Clifford, W3UY

Random thoughts as Ye Olde Prez sits in his recliner and looks out the picture window.

- 1) Years ago ham radio revolved about the LF and HF bands. Now we are into the UHF, VHF et al. Where next?
- 2) How long before all repeaters will be PLed?
- 3) Who will be next year's Phil-Mont officers and directors?
- 4) The 10 meter band sun has been on vacation. Wonder if it has retired early into its fade cycle?
- 5) Gee, all the QSL cards that are sent out, but go unacknowledged, whether for lack of return postage or someone couldn't care less.
- 6) First there was the Beat of Drums and Smoke Signals. Then the Morse Code of Western Union and railroad, followed by wireless and fiber optics, the Spark Gap, the Vacuum Tube and transistors. Where are the next horizons? Will any Phil-Mont members be leaders in the field yet unknown?
- 7) Funny thing, a resistor is still a resistor and in substantially the same construction.
- 8) Gee, where's the last *BLURB*? Need to look at the monthly calendar. On second thought, let's relax in the recliner. See you next month.

*Editor's note: Wasn't the 'telegraph code' (clicks and clacks) different from 'Morse code?' - Any old timers want to comment? - How about an article for the *BLURB*?*



Watch your mailbox for the next issue of the ***BLURB***, which will inaugurate a regular column by our indefatigable liaison, AK2I. Jake will keep us posted on the progress being made with the new focus on W3TKQ and its relevance to the 'NEW' Franklin Institute. He'll also be writing about the station's early years, what it has meant to more than a generation of young visitors to the Franklin Institute, and what it CAN mean to future generations!

MS 150 BIKE TOUR



YES I CAN HELP

NAME _____ CALL _____

STREET _____ CLASS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE () _____

TEE SHIRT SIZE S M L XL XXL XXXL

BANDS MOBILE 146 220 440 OUTPUT POWER _____

BANDS H.T. 146 220 440 OUTPUT POWER _____

I CAN HELP SAT SUN BOTH

AREA THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO STAY WITH IN

WILL YOU NEED A ROOM ON SAT. NITE IN OCEAN CITY

YES NO

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP OUT IN A SUPPORT UNIT..IE

MED., PICK UP BUS, SWEEP, SAG WAGON OR REPAIR TRUCK

YES NO



LARRY KANE
WCAU-TV10 anchorman Larry Kane has served as the chapter's honorary chairman of the MS 150 Bike Tour for ten years. According to Kane, "I'm looking forward to greeting many veterans and welcoming many new riders to the exciting 10th anniversary tour!"



GOV. JAMES A. FLORIO
"I am deeply delighted to lend my support to this worthwhile endeavor. I urge everyone to take part in the 10th year 'bicycling celebration.'"



GREG LeMOND
Winner of the 1989 Tour de France and Sports Illustrated's 1989 Sportsman of the Year, LeMond is the national honorary chairperson of the MS 150. "Become a rider, volunteer or sponsor of the MS 150 Bike Tour. When you join the MS 150, you're joining me on a winning team."

Additional forms will be available at the August General Meeting.

Join us for the 10th annual MS 150 City to Shore Bike Tour, Saturday and Sunday, September 22 and 23 and take the challenge to help those with multiple sclerosis by participating in the largest overnight bicycle tour on the East Coast!

The MS 150 is a two-day, 150-mile round trip summertime adventure from Garden State Park in Cherry Hill, NJ to Ocean City, NJ and back. It's also beautiful scenery like the shore countryside and Jersey pinelands. Good cycling friends and wonderful food. Last year over 2,500 cyclists from 8 to 70 years-of-age met the MS 150 challenge.

This year, we'd like you to come along, too!

MINUTES

The July General meeting was called to order by W3UY at 20:22 hours. There were 20 members and 8 visitors attending. The visitors were N3IEI, K3VLI, WB3JVX, KA3TWL, KA3WPE, N2KSY, N2EME and Mike ?.

Special Events - N3FVI reported that the Core States race went very well and thanked all that participated. Also there is another bike race, The Cancer Society Bike-A-Thon race on July 25, it starts at 7:00 am. If you can help with Paddlerama on July 22-23 get in touch with W3BBB.

New Business - W3RM gave a report on W5YI, some handicapped hams may get a waiver on the 13 and 20 wpm test. A reprint of the report will appear in the Blurb.

TVI Committee - We have a TVI complaint in Oreland, W3BBB is going to give it to W3VVS.

Repeater Committee - W3BBB reports that UHF is back up, and that the

JULY GENERAL MEETING

banana has been having fun with the emergency autodial. The codes will be changed.

Mo-Com - N3DHI reported that the van was used for the fireworks at Abington Township on the 4th. Also Abington has agreed to purchase the van, and they would like to put it to bed by July 12th.

N3FVI introduced our guest speaker Russ Stafford, WB3JVX, who talked about public service and ham radio. Russ is the trustee of the MetroCom system. He shared a tape of the Cancer Bike-A-Thon, and was looking for volunteers. MetroCom also participates in the 'MS 150 Bike Tour' that runs from the Garden State Race Track to Ocean City. The event takes 2 days, with a stayover in Ocean City. [See application on page 20 in this issue. -Ed]

The meeting adjourned at 21:45.

Respectfully submitted; Brad Swanson, N3GLH, Secretary

MINUTES

JULY DIRECTORS' MEETING

The July Mid-Month meeting was held at the home of W3BBB on July 18, 1990. Present were W3UY, N3FVI, N3GLH, KB3IV, W3BBB, K3KUD, AK2I, W3IIN, W3IIM, K3GBA, N3DHI, W3PXY, WA3KLR, KC2HX and K3PHC. The meeting was called to order by W3UY at 20:20 hours. KB3IV read the treasurer's report.

New Business - Paddlerama, W3BBB reported that the number of canoes had dropped drastically and he suggested we cancel. After a show of hands the verdict was that we would not participate again this year.

Dues - after lengthy discussion, W3IIN made the motion to raise the dues to \$18.00 as of January 1st 1991. The motion was seconded by KB3IV and passed by the board.

Membership - W3IIN had one application to vote on. George Starks, N2KSX was voted in.

W3TKQ - AK2I was concerned with the direction that the institute was taking

regarding exhibits, and whether we would be able to fit-in with the new image they seem to be taking on. Jake also made the following motion for the record.

"All official operators of W3TKQ, not already members of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc., shall be accorded honorary membership, for the duration of their connection with the station." The motion passed, and letters will be distributed by Jake to the appropriate parties.

Mo-Com - N3DHI read a letter of information regarding Abington Township and Mo-Com. Abington is still trying to appropriate the funds for the com van. W3BBB is going to compose a letter to the township giving the required 90 notice of dissolution of our existing contract.

The meeting adjourned at 21:47, and refreshments were enjoyed by all.

Respectfully Submitted; Brad Swanson, N3GLH, Secretary

Abington keeps July 4 fireworks

By Nicole Levicoff

Richard E. Fluge's "red flag" regarding budget expenditures was raised as a caution on Flag Day as the Board of Commissioners wrestled Thursday with the conflict of items considered necessary versus monetary constraints.

Fluge continued the call for caution he began at last Wednesday's Public Safety Committee meeting regarding expenditures which go above and beyond the call of budgets. He cited specifically those not originally part of the budget but came forth later as a request for contingency funds.

The commissioners voted 14 - 0 (W. Cecil Travis was absent) to approve \$7,700 in requests from the police department. However, in an effort to preserve some emergency funding, they stressed the money must come from an alternative source.

The requests involved \$3,700 in various safety equipment for new Fire Marshal Bob Stahl and \$4,000 for an emergency management communications van and various accessories to be purchased from the Bux-Mont (sic) Radio Club [that's us folks- Ed].

Although the Board intended to make the purchases using HUD funding, Rep. Jon D. Fox, R-153 confirmed the money was not available from that source and he was still seeking alternative state and federal funds.

One alternative source of funding was established through a motion by Barbara Ferrara to direct all money available from the salaries of employees who leave the township before the end of 1990 into the contingency fund. Based on the pending departure of administrative aid Robery (sic) Eash the commissioners voted unanimously to approve the motion, which would prevent the filling of any vacated position without board approval.

Striving to "run the township like a business," Vice President Randall Aiken said he understood the importance of the purchases, yet he urged others to recognize the precarious position in which the township remained financially.

inx GLENSIDE NEWS 6/20

**AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMS
HELD ON THE FIRST
NON-HOLIDAY MONDAY
OF EVERY MONTH**
At
THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE
For Information Call ND3Q at
(215) 482-0386 or 879-0505
Accessible by the handicapped.

A waiver of the General Class code element was recently granted to a disabled amateur who wished to upgrade, but was unsuccessful in achieving 13 wpm. A new FCC policy will grant waivers to disabled amateurs who have a doctor's note attesting that they are disabled within the definition(s) of the Disabilities Act of 1988, and who complete a waiver request form.

inx BRATS' MILLIWATT

eral small meetings took place, and it was decided to put us into a holding area where we could wait-out the appropriate departure time.

As the caravan was prepared to move out, the new leader, from the Ohio unit, took charge and was going to handle all communications by himself with the rally site. This is where the 'great debacle' of 27 MHz took place. It seems that the rally site was handling all communications via 2 meters on 147.29 MHz via a local repeater. The caravan leader, feeling his time had come to show his expertise, decided to work via the 27 MHz band on channel 14, the very same frequency that the Rally control was using for internal communications. Even though rules were published long before the rally caravans began, he insisted on using channel 14. I'm sure everyone has heard what channel 19 sounds like during a busy work-day. Well, this was even worse, for hundreds of signals were converging on channel 14, and no one was making any sense, including our leader. After many attempts and many false moves to wrong locations, we finally made the rally grounds--in the wrong parking area for our caravan. After a great harangue, he, who was convinced of 27 MHz as a communications frequency, was even more convinced that he should have allowed the amateur radio stations to bring-in the caravans. I was then asked, and proceeded to contact the parking control committee, and final arrangements were made within three noise-free minutes to park the caravan in the proper location. The caravan leader was later seen at the Amateur Radio seminar set-up by the rally committee. Hopefully he will use his available station before his next caravan takes place.

A small sample of the next seven-day program reads like this: Band practice - Committee Chairmen meeting - First-timers meeting - Teen Queen Practice - New Airstreams on display - Unit Presidents'

dinner - Square Dancing Practice - Choir Practice - Craft Work Shop - Woodcarving Class - Duplicate Bridge - Gem and Mineral Demonstration, and at 7:30 PM every night, our featured entertainment program. That partial list of activities was just for one day, and the committee had seven more days just like it filled with even greater and more interesting programs like the Fishing Seminar - White water rafting program - Horse-shoe Contest and Health Clinics. One cannot possibly do everything he or she wants to do because of time constraints.

Our final day arrived, and in a passing conversation, I indicated to a friend of mine that I was going on to Chicago for two days. That led to my conducting a caravan of five trailers to a small camp just 30 miles outside of Chicago where we showed the group one of the finest times of their camping lives.

Since none of them had ever been to Chicago before, it was obviously very easy to impress them with 'The Magnificent Mile' - The Water Tower-the Boat Tours - Bloomingdales' Department Store - The



Untouchable Tour - The sight of Chicago from the Sears Tower on the 103rd floor, and a quick ride, on the fastest elevator in the world, to the 95th floor of the John Hancock building. What an exciting whirlwind tour we had, those two days, and our accommodations cost us a total of \$30.00 for the two nights!

At home now, we ponder our next "On the Road Again", and since I was asked at the international rally to help set-up the communications for the Statue of Liberty Rally in August, to be located near Ellis Island and Liberty State Park in New Jersey, while it will not be a long trip, it certainly will be an interesting and exciting one. For example there's... Oh well, I might as well save that for the next time.

73 for now. See you "On The Road Again." Please listen for us on 7.233 MHz each morning starting on August 14, coming to you from Liberty State Park, NJ, near the base of the Statue of Liberty.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Our rendezvous was the lovely city of Lancaster, PA, and what a peaceful town it is. During the early morning hours the calm is broken only by the Amish wagon with its sleepy, ashen faced passengers calmly going to market in the center of the square. This market is in a building dedicated to this function, but has long since felt the stress of limited parking, even for the horses. Our auto had to be parked about five blocks away, but the activity and wares that we were about to see and smell was more than enough compensation for the inconvenience of the long walk. The food available seemed to be from a different land--to my untrained shopping eye, they seemed exotic. After a few hours, and a few dollars of samples, we retired to our campground located just a few hundred feet off of route 30. By dusk seven trailers had assembled, and after a few more hours of fun and fellowship with friends, and with those newly acquired friends, we also retired.

Five AM came very quickly, and while we had no reason to do otherwise, we left the campground quietly with concern for our neighbors still enjoying sleep. Today was the day we must meet 23 additional trailers in Columbus, Ohio. As a result our caravan leader enjoys an early start, for, after a one hour drive, it was his intention to stop for a nice breakfast, either at a local eatery or in our trailers. I can safely say that this is the time I enjoy most. Although I enjoy my home, my alternate home with just my wife and I can become most enjoyable indeed.

At 5:30 AM I checked-into the Roosters' pre-net, and let the boys know what we were up to, and had a nice signal report. The Hustler antenna continues to do a super job--thanks to N3WW. The RV Net on 7.233 MHz was my next stop on amateur radio. This is always fun to work. This group of amateurs, whose NCSs are located in Ohio, North Carolina and Florida, do a super job of handling all the RV traffic that comes to them, for this net handles all brands of RVs, not just Airstream. Orig-

Jake Kovalchek, AK2I

nally, the net was formed just for the Airstream Club, but it was soon evident that all others needed the service, so it was expanded to include all makes and models, as long as you had an interest in RVs. This was the only criteria for participation in the net. The check-in found that the boys in Notre Dame University Convocation Center, where the amateur radio station for the rally was set up, were waiting for my call. I generally indicate the number of trailers, and whether or not we have any units' presidents with us, or trailers having built-in generators, or trailers having any disabled, or dogs. All of these trailers will eventually end up in different locations at the parking areas on rally grounds. Therefore it's important that the parking committee know in advance just where, and what caravans they must keep an eye on, as far as special parking instructions are concerned. As trailers arrive in the local area of the rally, such as in South Bend, Indiana in our case, the Caravan leader will assign large letters to be shown on the inside of the tow vehicle, such as "C" for caravan, "D" for dogs, or "G" for generator parking. In this way the parkers will be able to designate routes to the individual trailers for them to park when arriving at the rally grounds.

The next several days saw additional check-ins made, and all with additional information about the size of the caravan.

Finally, on June 26, five days into our caravan, we were ready to go into the rally grounds at Notre Dame to be officially parked. We stayed overnight at a KOA campground near the city of South Bend, and had an easy run from there to the rally site. A total now of 36 trailers had assembled, and we received a call from the parking team on amateur radio, that our caravan was not to come in until 2 PM because of rain and resulting mud that the grounds had suffered the night before. This caused all kinds of problems because the KOA had a check out time of 12:00 Noon, and our trip to the rally site was only 30 minutes at the most. Sev-

63rd MONTHLY VE SESSION STATISTICS

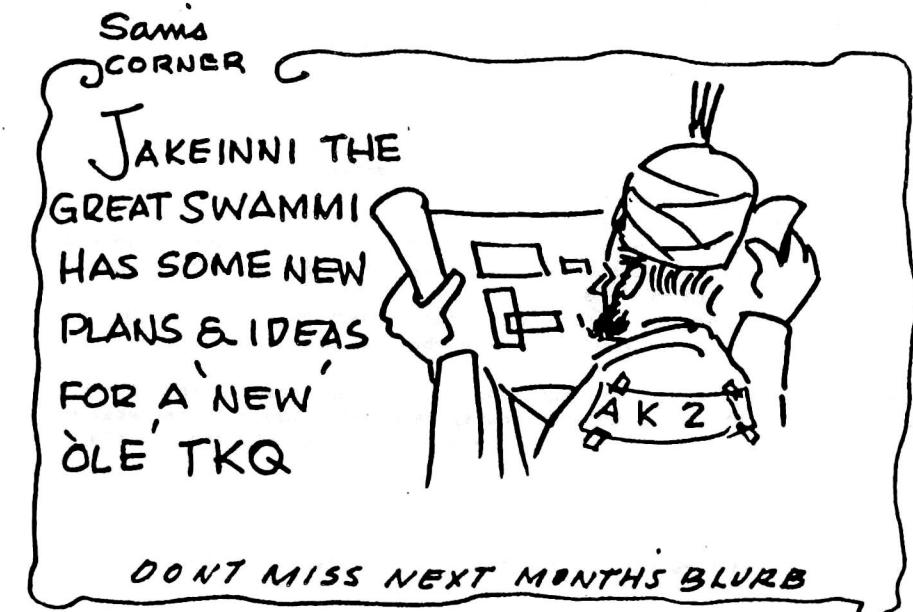
JULY

16 participants pass 15 elements
3 new amateurs - 6 upgrades

Name	Call	From	To
James Harris	WA3NOA	Advanced	Extra
Nicholas Ipri	KA3VLI	Novice	Technician
Anthony Johnson	KA3VVV	Novice	Technician
Daniel Mozzoni	N3IAX	Technician	General
Lara Parks	KA3WPM	Novice	Technician
Michael Pollard			Novice
Eric Snyder			Technician
William Thompson			Novice
Ernest Woods	KA3WHZ	Novice	Technician

Congratulations to all, and to the members of our VE team:

ND3Q Dusty Rhoads, Chairman
N3FTZ Ted Lada
NS3Z Robert Forrester



A Letter to All Club-Station Operators at W3TKQ

Gentlemen:

We, the officers of the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, wish to acknowledge your contributions to Amateur Radio in general, and to our club, and its perpetuation, in particular. Your time and efforts over these many years have done more for our club than you can imagine, and we are ever grateful and appreciate your efforts. We especially wish to acknowledge those who have answered the club phone and its message machine, and have helped those hundreds of new amateurs find their way. We can never find the proper words of appreciation.

We also wish to acknowledge that we, as a club, have not been as responsive as we should have been. Many times your appeals went unanswered - your appeals for new equipment, and other exciting facilities, have fallen prey to budget limitations. However, we do now acknowledge that W3TKQ is one of the many viable links to the perpetuation of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, and we have taken steps to assure that measure:

- A. We have established a Liaison Office between W3TKQ and the management of the Franklin Institute.
- B. This Liaison Office is also established for, and between, the club's officers and W3TKQ - your voice will be heard and expressed at all of the club's directors' meetings, and anywhere else it must be heard.
- C. We all acknowledge that the station must be modernized in order to meet the challenges of tomorrow. We have the backing of the Institute in that regard, and steps have been taken not only to modernize W3TKQ but to replace all of its equipment. This will not be accomplished overnight.
- D. We have a program established to reaffirm W3TKQ's place in the Amateur marketplace, but we need your help. For example, we ask that you include the following as regular operating practice whenever you put W3TKQ on the air, especially our 2 meter repeater W3QV on 147.03:
 1. Proudly announce "This is W3TKQ, the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club's station at the Franklin Institute".
 2. Take the time to be aware of club activities, and have a copy of the latest BLURB handy for reference.
 3. Monitor 147.03 all the time you're in the station. Even though other frequencies will be active, you will be able to hear calls and respond.
 4. Consider making Phil-Mont your primary repeater, and be sure to check-in to the Sunday nets whenever possible.

Thanks gentlemen. With your continued help and assistance, and with the cooperation of all the club's officers, we promise you a better station, more fun, and more involvement in the growth of the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club.

(signed)

The Officers and Directors of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club

Editor's note: The station operators are listed on page 2 of the BLURB.

ASIDES

Foreign Language

According to the Washington Post, Veterans Affairs Secretary Edward Derwinski is determined to make his bureaucrats write in language that non-bureaucrats can understand. He even brought in a language specialist who has collected gems of bureaucratese: a traffic light is an "electronically adjusted, color-coded, vehicular flow-control mechanism"; a parachute is an "individual aerial deceleration mechanism"; a shovel is a "combat emplacement evacuator"; waves are "sea-air interface climactic disturbances." We of course wish Sec. Derwinski luck, but we're intrigued by the bureaucrats' amazing, almost incredible skill to conceal the real meaning of simple nouns. As the saying goes, someone should bottle it. A real entrepreneur would find a way to put this stuff in a box and sell it as a \$25 party game guaranteed to provide hours of puzzlement, laughter and shrieks of disbelief.

inx Wall Street Journal

HOW FAR AWAY IS THAT THUNDERSTORM?

ROB, N6MXG

Watch the sky during a thunderstorm. The second you see the lightning, start counting off the seconds by counting 'one thousand and one, one thousand and two, one thousand and three, etc. (or use a stopwatch), until you hear the clap of thunder. If you have counted up to five seconds, the storm is one mile away. If you reach thirty seconds, the lightning is six miles away. By counting periodically, you will be able to tell whether the storm is coming toward you or going in the opposite direction by the decreasing or increasing number of seconds. Sound travels about 1/5 mile per second and light travels 186,000 miles per second.

inx BRATS' MILLIWATT (via LARC Feedback)

What is a radio Amateur?

A radio Amateur is a person who passes an exacting exam as an exacting expert on the strength of being able to turn out, with prolific aptitude, strings of incomprehensible devices built with micrometric precision, from extremely vague assumptions, based on debatable figures acquired from inconclusive tests and quite incomplete experiments performed with instrumentation accuracy by a person of doubtful reliability and rather dubious mentality with the particular anticipation of disconcerting and annoying everyone outside of his own fraternity.

The Ham Radio Guide, Portsmouth

inx WORLD RADIO

BIKEMOBILE

Herb Viegas rides his bike long distances from his home in Arlington, Texas. For entertainment, he will turn a ham radio he has attached to the bike and talk to people as far away as New York and Minnesota.

"I put out a pretty good signal, and the guys hear me, and I get a pile of them wanting to talk to me," said Viegas, 69. Shortly after retiring from LTV Corp. about 10 Years ago, Viegas took up cycling. He also began tinkering in his workshop at home.

"I decided that I didn't want to spend all of my time in there," he said. "So, I thought that I would try to rig a ham radio for my bike."

Viegas had to figure what kind of a regulator to use for the voltage provided by a generator on the back wheel of his 12-speed. Once he did, he began beaming out his signal.

"I rode 4,000 miles last year," he said. "When I'm riding, I'll talk to people and tell them that I am riding a bike and can't write their names. I ask them to send me a card."

From the Phila Inquirer 7/2/90

inx KA3AMO

ment fail to realize that the candle is actually destroying the dark which it sucks! Why then, does a room full of dark not become empty of dark after a while? Simple, dark is capable of regenerating itself. It is important to note that the speed of regeneration is proportional to the volume of dark already present. For example, in a closet where the volume is small, the candle will be able to suck dark faster than the dark reproduces itself. In a huge cavern, however, a candle will not be able to keep up, thus we need dark suckers with greater capacities when we use them in large spaces.

Further support for the destruction of dark is illustrated by the previous reference to dark storage units. Though most inexpensive storage units will get full, and therefore become useless, the higher priced ones can be attached to a charger which empties the canister by destroying the dark inside. The canister is then able to be used again.

Dark is also heavier than light. If you swim just below the surface of a lake, you will see a lot of light. As you swim deeper and deeper, you notice it gets slowly darker and darker. When you reach a depth of approximately fifty feet, you are in total darkness. This is because the heavier dark sinks to the bottom of the lake and the lighter light floats to the top. This immense power of dark can be utilized to man's advantage. We can collect the dark that has settled to the bottom of lakes and push it through turbines, which generate electricity and help push dark to the oceans, where it can be safely stored. Prior to turbines, it was much more difficult to get dark from the rivers and lakes to the oceans. The Indians recognized this problem and tried to solve it. When on a river in a canoe, traveling the same direction as the flow of dark, they paddled slowly, so as not to stop the flow of dark; but when they traveled against the

dark, they paddled quickly, so as to help push the dark along its way.

Finally, we can and must prove that dark is faster than light. If you were to stand in an illuminated room in front of a closed dark closet then slowly open the closed door, you would see the light slowly enter the closet; but since the dark is so fast you are not be able to see the dark leave the closet. In conclusion, I would like to say that dark suckers make all our lives much easier. So, the next time you look at an electric bulb, remember that it is a indeed a dark sucker.

tnx N3FTZ

CREDITS: *The preceding was copied from the AMA National Newsletter, Dec. 1989, which copied it from the AMES Sundusters club newsletter, Denny Goodrich, Editor, Ames IA. Author unknown.*

Whew!

The FCC's John Johnston has advised all VECs that 49,992 new and upgraded Amateur Radio (Form 610) applications were processed by the FCC in fiscal year 1989. While VECs reported examining 61,992 persons, the number of persons examined under the Novice program is unknown.

Had the 20,047 passed Novice examinations been administered under the VEC system, the workload to the VEC system would have increased more than 67 percent. The 36,579 Novice and Technician license applications processed by Gettysburg represents 73.4 percent of the Gettysburg new/upgrade workload.

(W6YI Report, 05/15/90) tnx WORLD RADIO

BATTERIES SO SKINNY THEY COME IN SHEETS

PAPER-THIN rechargeable lithium batteries are the hope of the Hopes.

Henry F. Hope and his son, Stephen, who control Hope Technologies Inc. in Willow Grove, PA, say they've perfected a high-energy rechargeable battery that can be made in sheets only 0.015 inch thick. More important, they claim their battery can store 220 watts of power per kilogram of weight, at least four times the power density of conventional lead-acid auto batteries. The latter claim would mean that a stack of the battery sheets would run four times as long on a single charge as a conventional lead-acid battery of the same weight.

The Hopes' main business is making machinery for automated processing of photographic and X-ray films. A few years ago, they were trying to invent a new photographic film by coating a layer of dye-filled microspheres with a thin layer of lithium. They suddenly realized that the lithium could serve as the positive terminal of a battery.

After a thousand experiments, they say, they developed a battery in which a still-secret ionconducting polymer electrolyte is sandwiched between a film of lithium for the anode and a film of vanadium oxide for the cathode.

The two inventors, using their experience in building film-processing machinery, plan to make and sell sheets of their battery to manufacturers who would cut or stack the sheets into the shapes needed for any of a variety of uses. Possibilities, the Hopes say, include a skin-thin implantable battery for heart pacemakers, slim battery packs for soldiers, light-weight batteries for laptop computers and an auto battery that would be part of the car's body.

More on the BLUE BELL GHOST

Sam Kuncovich

An investigator with his psychic assistant has made contact with the spirit. This much was found.

The ghost is John Phalen of Hastings, England, a member of the British Fifth Regiment of light infantry under General Howe in 1777. He was critically wounded at the skirmish with a picket force at Blue Bell Tavern, and died on the table inside. His last words were "I knew I would never leave this cursed place." It seems he was at the end of his duty assignment time, and was supposed to return to England, however, his duty time has been extended by General Howe (along with some others, all of whom resented this action).

The investigator was Hans Holzer, a Dutchman who specializes in this kind of thing. His 'medium' was Sibil Leek, a person highly sensitive to the spirit world. Both are here from England to gather material for a book on ghosts.



tnx Wall Street Journal

Radio operators HAM it up

Local club makes worldwide connections in Field Day Fete

Area shortwave radio operators were 'hamming it up' this weekend in New Britain Township as they participated in a national Field Day with their fellow broadcasters across the United States and Canada.

More than 60 members of the Warminster Amateur Radio Club set up operations on the grounds of the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa at the intersection of Ferry Road and Route 313.

locations, powered by emergency generators and natural power and attempted to contact as many stations throughout the world as possible during the 24-hour period.

Between broadcasts the HAM operators munched hot dogs, engaged in cookouts and generally enjoyed the outdoor get-together.

"This is the first year when we've had good weather and weren't shut down by



The exercise, which lasted for 24 hours, started at noon on Saturday. According to William Gorodetzer of Holland, public information officer for the club, this is the fourth year the Warminster-based group has participated in the national exercise.

Thousands of radio amateurs across the United States and Canada set up at remote

lightning, Gorodetzer explained. Last year the Warminster club took third place in the national competition, and two years ago they snagged the top spot for their category, which is for radio clubs with more than 10 operators.

While most of the transmission stations were operated by gas-powered generators,

Darkness, Be Gone

For years it has been believed that electric bulbs emitted a substance or energy called light. Recent information, however, has proven otherwise. Electric bulbs don't emit light - they suck dark. Thus we call these bulbs dark suckers. In addition to proving this fact, the Dark Sucker Theory also presents a number of other basic theorems concerning the properties of dark. For example, the speed of dark is greater than that of light, and dark has greater mass than light.

The basis of the Dark Sucker Theory is that electric bulbs suck dark. Take for example, the dark suckers in the room where you are. There is less dark right next to them than there is elsewhere. The larger the dark suckers, the greater its capacity to suck dark. Dark suckers in a parking lot have much greater capacity than the ones in this room. As with all things, dark suckers don't last forever. Once they are full of dark, they can no longer suck. This is proven by the black spot on a full dark sucker. A candle is a primitive dark sucker. A new candle has a white wick. You will notice that after the first use, the wick turns black, representing the dark which has been sucked into it. If you hold a pencil next to the wick on an operating candle, the tip will turn black, because it got in the way of the dark flowing into the candle. Unfortunately, these dark suckers have a very limited range. There are also portable dark suckers. The bulbs in these units can't handle all of the dark by themselves, and must be aided by a dark storage unit. When the dark storage unit is full, it must be either emptied or replaced before the portable dark sucker can operate again. If you break open one of these filled canisters, one will see that there is indeed a great quantity of stored dark on the inside.

Dark has mass. When dark goes into a dark sucker, friction from this mass passing through another mass will generate a certain amount of heat. It is commonly known that an operating dark sucker generates heat. The dark suckers with the greatest capacities force the dark to travel through the impeding mediums at greater rates of speed, so they develop greater amounts of heat. Thus, it is not wise to touch an operating dark sucker. Candles present a special problem. Though the light does not have to travel through a solid substance like the glass forming an electric bulb, the dark must travel into the solid wick, instead of a void as is found inside of the bulb. As we all know, this process generates a great amount of heat. In fact, flammable items which come into contact with an operating candle will be set on fire because of the amount of heat generated. Thus, it can be even more dangerous to touch an operating candle.

Further proof of dark's mass is illustrated by the smoke generated by inefficient or extinguished candles. The intermediate state of dark during its destruction is a visible soot or smoke. Once again, casual observers will attempt to refute the mass of darkness since smoke generally rises. The same physical laws which allow clouds to float, when water is heavier than air, cause smoke to rise. In an uncleaned area, it is easy to note the "rain" of soot which accumulates on surfaces.

Though many are not aware of the incredible technology behind candles, they illustrate another one of the many characteristics of dark. Consider the fact that dark suckers absorb and store light. At first glance, it may seem that this fact is a childish myth since an operating candle eventually diminishes to nothing. Proponents of this argu-

Heath/Zenith Consolidates, Closes 5 outlets

In what Heath/Zenith Computers & Electronics Centers is calling an effort to "remain competitive," the company has closed five U.S. retail outlets and is evaluating business plans for the remaining 60.

According to Charles Neiman, president of the Heath/Zenith chain--a division of Zenith Data Systems Corp.--the closures were made in an effort to consolidate in markets where multiple outlets were not needed. Neiman did point to Providence, R.I., however, as one market Zenith has abandoned by closing the only storefront it had there.

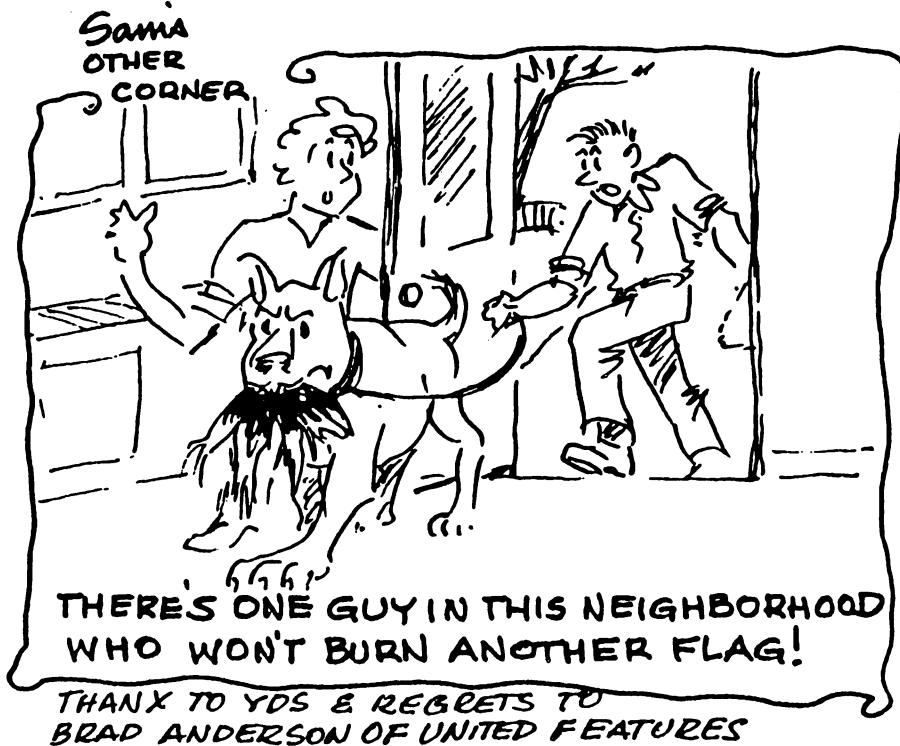
The store closings have taken place over the first half of this year, with several before Neiman left his former position two

months ago as head of Zenith's Southeast sales region.

In El Cerrito, Calif., Heath/Zenith's storefront was closed because the chain had four outlets within a 100-mile radius, said Neiman.

In Philadelphia two storefronts were combined into one. Similar moves were made in Pittsburgh; Plantation, Fla.; and Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas.

All this is part of a plan "to be competitive in the market place," said Neiman. Two former store managers who have left in recent months said that managers still with the reseller/manufacturer chain are bracing for 10 to 12 stores to fold within the next few months. *inx COMPUTER RESELLER NEWS*



one operated on solar power.

Gorodetzer reported that his group was successful in making contacts with other operators across the country, into Canada, Europe and the Middle East. "The farthest contact we made was through a communication satellite that relayed the message to Japan. The satellite is in orbit about 25,000 miles above the earth and it repeated our signal and sent it to Japan," he explained.

The competition, which is designed to improve proficiency in operating in abnormal situations under less than optimum conditions, imparts skills which have been called upon in establishing emergency communications during emergencies such as the San Francisco earthquake, Hurricane Hugo and the Avianca Airline crash.

The club members employed three types of contact methods. About 50 percent of the contacts were made by voice; 45 percent by Morris (sic) Code and 5 percent through digital contact. The digital communications are similar to those made through computer modems.

Three of the local participants are legally blind, according to Gorodetzer, but those physical handicaps in no way limit their ability as HAM operators.

Exactly how the Warminster Amateur Radio Club fared in this year's competition will not be known for several months until the contacts from all of the participating clubs are tallied.

There is no denying, however, that the important emergency community service these radio operators offer, makes them all winners in a more important way.

inx THE DOYLESTOWN PATRIOT



NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS

CALL: N3IEI
 NAME: Chris Brady
 HANDLE: Chris
 CLASS: Technician
 ADDRESS: 121 Lyster Road
 Oreland, PA 19075
 HOME PHONE: 215-885-6143
 OCCUPATION: News Photog - KYW-TV
 BUSINESS PHONE: 215-238-4850
 WILL HELP WITH:

CALL: K3JJ0
 NAME: Waldo Newell
 HANDLE: Wally
 CLASS: Advanced
 ADDRESS: 2957 Goentner Road
 Willow Grove, PA 19090
 HOME PHONE: 215-659-9504
 OCCUPATION: Sales/Engineer
 BUSINESS PHONE: 215-254-9850
 WILL HELP WITH: Net Control, Repeater

CALL: KA3VLI
 NAME: Nicholas Ipri
 HANDLE:
 CLASS: Technician
 ADDRESS: 712 W. Rolling Road
 Springfield, PA 19064
 HOME PHONE: 215-544-6556
 OCCUPATION: Student
 BUSINESS PHONE: 215-544-6556
 WILL HELP WITH: W3TKQ, Membership, Publicity

PHIL-MONT INFORMATION
 24 Hour Information Number at W3TKQ
 (215) 448-1139

1990

AUGUST

1990

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	LOOK! CODE PRACTICE NET <i>resumes full-time on September 18</i> 		1	2	3	4 <i>Lancaster Hamfest</i>
5 2M NCS N3FVI 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS W3PWG	6 GENERAL MEETING & LICENSE EXAMS	7 CODE PRACTICE NET <i>as available throughout the summer</i>	8	9	10 <i>Herbert Hoover 1874</i>	11 <i>Dog Days end</i>
12 2M NCS NEEDED 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS W3AOA <i>MARC Hamfest</i>	13	14 CODE PRACTICE NET <i>as available throughout the summer</i> <i>V.J. Day 1945</i>	15 DIRECTORS' MEETING at W3IIM & N's <i>Panama Canal opened 1914</i>	16	17 <i>Cat Nights begin</i>	18
19 2M NCS KA3AMO 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS W3RCE <i>Delmarva Hamfest</i>	20	21 CODE PRACTICE NET <i>as available throughout the summer</i> <i>Hawaiian Statehood 1959</i>	22	23	24	25
26 2M NCS KB3IV 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS AK2I <i>Gloucester Co. Hamfest</i>	27 <i>L.B. Johnson 1908</i>	28 CODE PRACTICE NET <i>as available throughout the summer</i>	29	30	31	